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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:27pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I believe the settlement is no punishment to Micro\$oft at all and would be to its advantage even without the incentive of getting the trial stopped.

The proposal to give software free for 5 years to schools that could not afford it in the first place is no punishment at all - the cost of a CD is about 25c apiece. It's probably no coincidence at all that the agreement is for 5 years when the IT world is used to a 3 year upgrade cycle. The schools concerned get one upgrade free and then micro\$oft gets a new set of customers next time !! During the 5 year period the only competitor, Apple, is locked out, again to M\$ advantage.

opinions expressed are of the writer and not my employer.

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